

Message Text

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USIAC

VIENNA FOR RPO

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: THE RETURN OF THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN AND SECRETARY
VANCE'S VISIT JAN 5-7; PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

1. PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE HISTORIC EVENT OF THE RETURN
OF THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN WERE MADE JOINTLY BY THE PRESS
SECTION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE POST.
DURING INITIAL DISCUSSIONS WITH MFA PRESS SECTION OFFICIALS
IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THEY WISHED TO MAKE EVERY POSSIBLE
EFFORT TO HAVE GOOD FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR THE LARGE PRESS
CORPS THEY EXPECTED. HOWEVER, IT WAS ALSO OBVIOUS THAT
THEIR EXPERIENCE IN THESE MATTERS WAS WANTING. FOR THE
PRESS CENTER SET-UP, FOR INSTANCE, THEY AT FIRST REFUSED US
TELEPHONE SERVICE, SAID THAT A COPYING MACHINE WAS NOT
NEEDED AND WANTED OUR PRESS CENTER PEOPLE TO SIT IN A
BACK OFFICE, INSTEAD OF AVAILABLE TO JOURNALISTS. ALL OF
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THE ABOVE MATTERS, AS WELL AS SOME OTHER MINOR ONES, WERE
SETTLED AMICABLY AND TO OUR SATISFACTION. ALTHOUGH
THE PRESS CENTER WAS A JOINT OPERATION, THE MFA INSISTED
ON PAYING ALL COSTS, EXCEPT THE AP NEWS WIRE SERVICE.

2. DURING THE PERIOD OF THE CROWN RETURN CEREMONIES
AND THE SECRETARY'S VISIT THERE WERE OVER 150 FOREIGN

JOURNALISTS ACCREDITED AT THE PRESS CENTER, IN ADDITION TO THE OVER 50 HUNGARIAN JOURNALISTS WHO RECEIVED THEIR ACCREDITATION FROM OTHER AUTHORITIES. IN ADDITION TO THE PRESS KITS DISTRIBUTED WITH BACKGROUND MATERIALS ON THE CROWN AND U.S. DELEGATION, WE ALSO GAVE OUT FULL TEXTS OF ALL OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, A SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, ETC.

3. THE PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH THE SECRETARY HELD IN THE HOTEL HILTON ON JANUARY 7 WAS ALSO SUCCESSFUL. WE PROVIDED THE SECRETARY'S PRESS SPOKESMAN JOHN TRATTNER WITH A TAPE OF THE CONFERENCE IMMEDIATELY AFTER IT WAS OVER AND SENT THE TEXT OF IT BY TELEGRAM FOR ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON BEFORE THE SECRETARY'S RETURN THERE.

4. THE POST ALSO PROVIDED AP NEWS WIRE SERVICE FOR THE SECRETARY AND HIS STAFF. SINCE WE LOCATED THE AP PRINTER IN THE PRESS CENTER WE ALSO PROVIDED ALL JOURNALISTS WITH CONTINUOUS NEWS COPY.

5. IN ALL ASPECTS, THE AMERICAN PRESS CENTER WAS A WELL RUN, EFFICIENT OPERATION. IN A LARGE MEASURE THAT WAS DUE TO THE EXPERT AND WILLING ASSISTANCE THE POST RECEIVED FROM RPO VIENNA IN PRINTING BROCHURES AND PRESS KIT COVERS, AND TO THE FINE WORK OF THE THREE USIS STAFFERS WHO CAME FOR OTHER POSTS IN EUROPE.

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